

New Arrivals

Mark Harrington Nottes

A second "Nottes" is herewith announced with the arrival of Mark on August 12th in Buffalo, N. Y. His parents, the Chuck Nottess'es, are active dancers in the Buffalo area. Congratulations!

Janet Marie Allison

Was born to Bob and Doris, active mebers of the Denver folk dance group, on July 24. Congratulations and all good wishes to all of you.

Thaya Geneth Kibbee

The stork was "pooped" after she was delivered to Joel and Eleanor, for Thaya weighed 9 lbs and 5 oz! The girls was born to these ex-Californians in New York. Mazal Tov!

Robert Shawn Whelan

Another heavy load for the stork was the delivery of 9 pounder Bob to Carson and Margaret Whelan, folk dance leeders of Toronto, Canada. The landing was safe and the folks rejoiced. Good luck!

Allen Daniel Pietruskiewich

Born in Honolulu, Hawaii, to John & Edith, she is Hawaiian, he New Jersian, a little brother for Lailani, on July 4th, a patriotic and memorable date. Dużo szczęścia!

Benoit Carriere

A first born made his debut to Jacques and Rejane Carriere, on May 29. Jacques and Rejane are a very talented young couple, popular, liked and respected for their abilities and sincerity in the folk dance movement of which they are the moving spirit among the French Canadian youth. Bonne Chance!

Karen Lynne Andersen

prevented Wilma and Svend from attending the Stockton camp by appearing with her song and dance on July 26. Wilma is an active folk dance leader in Fresno, Calif. Much happiness to all of you.

Bruce Weaver

made his debut in Dayton, Ohio, on September 26th to Dick and Judy, dancers of the Miami Valley Group. Congratulations!

Helen Marie Bachtold

Congretulations are extended to Erna and Wally Bachtold of Dayton, Washington, upon the birth of Helen Marie on June 12, 8 Lbs 11 and half oz. A big gal! Erna is an ex Minnesotan where she folk danced in the Twin-Cities area.

Glen Elliott Kemp

was born on October 4 to Bob and Coramae Kemp, active folk dancers of Long Beach, Calif. Congratulations!

VILTIS

BE SURE AND RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION...

Wedding Bells

Krug-Valentine

Edward Valentine, accordionist and instructor who appeared on many VILTIS festivals, was wed to Doris Jean on July 21 at Our Lady of Angels Church of San Diego. To both wishes of Ilgiasiu Metu!

Cary-De Joseph

Cathy Cary, active in the Southern Calif. Dance movement, teacher and Member of the Yoscmite Work Shop, was wed on August 18 to Paul De Joseph. Both are a wonderful couple. The wedding was held at the Chenoneta Congregational church of So. Pasadena, Calif. Ilgiasiu Metu!

Brecke-Hill

Marilyn Brecke, active in the Madison (Wis.) folk dance movement, was wed during the past summer to Howard Hill and live now in Arlington, Va. All good wishes and happy dancing.

Munoz-Wyatt

Paul Wyatt, San Diego and ex-VILTIS dancer and expert cancer technician, was wed on July 20th to a Columbian Senorita, Blanca Munoz. To both all the good luck the world offers! Ilgiasiu Metu!

Loesch-Kolby

June Loesch and Tom Colby, bot of Seattle, Wash., were married some time ago but we found out about it during the summer. Both, especially June, are active in dance circles. They now plan to move to California. Good luck

Cafario-Wicker

Gordon Wicker, ex Navy Lt. & VILTIS dancer (a goat) whose home is Milwaukee, was married to Mary Cafario of Los Angeles on Aug. 24th in the Methodist church of Montebello (Calif.) Sincere congratulations.

Gherke-Hayes

"Sandy" Gherky, formerly of Portland, Ore., and now of San Francisco, was wed to "Pat" Hayes on July 6th in Reno, Nev. Happy Dancing!

Matt Dembrow

Folk dance leader in the Akron (Buffalo), New York area, was wed on July 6th to Pauline (last name not notified), also a Buffalo F. D. and honeymooned in California. Matt teaches at Akron Central High and has an excellent exhibition group composed of 8th graders. Mnogo Lita!

Farrell-Morgan

Charlotte Farrell and Bill Morgan, both active in the folk dance movement in Philadelphia, became permanent dance partners on April 27th. Happy Dancing ever!

Mucha-Kaputska

Jeanette (Babe) Mucha, a member of the Chicago Polish folk dance group and sister of Emily, was wed on October 19th to William Kapustka, another member of the dance group. Sto Lat Niech żyje Nam!

Jones-Salyer

John D. Salyer, YNSN, son of Kaye (Nora) Merrill, who is active in the folk dance movement in the Dayton area and known to many everywhere, was wed to Texan Paule Jones on September 28, in Dayton. J. D.'s leave was spent honeymooning. To all congratulations and good wishes.

POLISH DANCE GROUPS IN U. S.

Stan LESZYNISKY

5. Boston Krakowianki Club and Krakowiak Dance Group of Boston, Mass.

The Boston Krakowianki Club was organized in 1937 by a group of young girls of Polish extraction interested in promoting the culture of the Polish people. Since its inception, this group of young girls was very active and participated in dance programs at festivals and Victory Balls. In 1948, young men were invited to join the dance group. The growth in membership and the inclusion of young men, coupled with expanded activities, led to the establishment of The Krakowiak Dance Group, a separate entity of the Boston Krakowianki Club. Both groups have presented many concerts of Polish dances and songs at Choral Societies, Conventions, Folk Festivals, Art Festivals, etc. In 1952 the group was invited to perform at the annual Kosciuszko Foundation Ball held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York, and they received enthusiastic acclaim.

The dances done by the group include Krakowiak, Kuwiajki, Goralski Taniec, Oberek, Mazur, Polka, Polonaise and Trojak. Some of the Polish folklore and customs of Poland depicted in dance form by the group include Dozynki - a harvest dance, Umar Maciek-Poor Maciek is dead, Lajkonik in Krakow and Turon - a dance of an ancient beast. The dance groups are under the direction of Mrs. Felicia Kutten, noted choreographer and authority on Polish dances. Officers of the Boston Krakowianki Club include Miss Mary Zalewski, President and Mrs. Eugenia Pierce, Vice-President. Dr. Alvin J. Pierce is Manager of the Krakowiak Dance Group, assisted by Miss Dorothy Gorzynski.

Under the guidance of Mrs. Kutten, the groups have acquired an extensive repertoire of Polish dances as well as having attained a high position of honor among the Polish Folk Dance Groups in this country. You can always expect to see the best in Polish folk dances and interpretation of Polish folklore from the Boston Krakowianki Club and the Krakowiak Dance Group of Boston.

6. Instructors Guild of Circuit XII of Polish National Alliance of Chicago, Illinois

The Instructors Guild is a group of youth leaders in the Chicago area who conduct clubs in folk dancing, folk singing or handicraft. Through this Guild, the leaders learn new dances and exchange ideas on Polish folklore. Each year, the different Polish clubs join together to present a program of Polish culture during the annual "Christmas Around the World" series at the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry. The groups also participate in many other programs and functions, such as the annual Polish National Alliance parade in Humboldt Park. At their own functions, the groups have a traditional "Gwiazdka," or Christmas party with the "Operek," and "Ozdoby," or hand made Polish Christmas ornaments. During Easter time, the groups celebrate the "Swieconka" with the usual egg coloring contests.

7. The Polonia Dancers of Seattle, Washington

The Polonia Dancers of Seattle were organized in January, 1954 to preserve and perpetuate Polish culture in the Seattle area. The club has approximately 15 members, all of Polish descent or Polish immigrants. Their first function was the presentation of a program of Polish dances at the Seattle Polish Independence Day (May 3rd) Celebration in 1954. Since that time, the group has been invited to present Polish songs and dances in the Portland-Seattle-Vancouver, B.C. area. The group has participated annually in the Polish Independence Day Celebrations, Pulaski Day Celebrations, Christmas celebrations and other functions at the Seattle Dom Polski (Polish Home); and during the past

two years, the Polonia Dancers presented a typical Polish Christmas with a "Choinka," "Kolendy," music and dances at the "Christmas Around the World" series sponsored by the Seattle Museum of History and Industry. The repertoire of the group includes such dances as Kokotek, Kujawiak, Gonsior, Maciek, Krakowiak Kolowrotek, Krakowiak Czworokonny, Oberek Zwyczajny, Oberek Wirowany, Trojak (2 virsions), Mazur Czworokonny and Wesele U Witosa. The group is directed by Stan Leszynski, who has done much to promote Polish culture in the Northwest area. Through the efforts of Mr. Leszynski, the Polonia Dancers were able to display in 1954 at the Seattle Museum of History and Industry, an authentic Polish Christmas tree decorated with 180 hand made, traditional Polish Ozdoby (Christmas ornaments). These ornaments were fashioned from colored paper, beads, straw and egg shells.

8. The Polonia Arts Club of Seattle, Washington

The Polonia Arts Club of Seattle was organized in 1955 for the purpose of preserving and presenting the Folk Arts of the Polish People. The folk arts of Poland are considered the most beautiful and artistic of any nation. Among these are such items as Pisanki (colored Easter eggs), Ozdoby (Christmas ornaments), Wycinanki (paper cutouts) and Nalepanki (pasted paper cutouts). In 1955, the Polonia Arts Club was paramount in bringing to the United States the first import of Folk Art Items from Poland. This shipment consisted of 70 panels of beautiful and elaborately decorated paper cutouts from many regions of Poland. The display had its premiere showing in Seattle and then was moved on to other cities in the United States. This display was enthusiastically received in Seattle, the first showing of a display of this type. The Club has decorated Easter eggs in the traditional Polish manner and has assisted the Polonia Dancers during the fabrication of the Polish Ozdoby.

The Polonia Arts Club is directed by Stan Leszynski, President, and is open to anyone interested in the Folk Arts of Poland. It is affiliated with the American Council of Polish Cultural Clubs, which at present has a membership of 20 Arts Clubs around the country who are doing their bit in showing you that which is Polish.

9. The Polish Festival Dancers, Chicago, Illinois

The most popular Polish group in Chicago is "The Festival Dancers" under the direction of Emilie Mucha. They have a rich repertoire and are well trained and agile dancers with a tremendous number of appearances to their credit. Miss Mucha herself is a fine dancer of good repute and was brought up in Polish traditions at home and at Northwestern University Settlement, where, under the direction of Vytis Belajus, many Polish traditions, such as Dozynki, Wesele Krakowski, Poprawny and the St. John's Festival (Sobotki), were perpetuated through song, dance and custom. She also won the coveted "Polka Queen" title at Chicago's "Harvest Moon Festival".

10. The Polish Alma Mater, Los Angeles

The Polish Alma Mater dedicated itself to the preservation of Polish customs and culture, to do homage to its patriots Kosciuszko and Pulaski, to its composers and artists Chopin, Moniuszko, Padarewski, Helen Modjeska and Jan Styka, to the novelists Sienkiewicz and Reymont and to the poet Adam Mickiewicz. They strive to develop new Polish talent that will continue to enrich the free democratic world of today and tomorrow.

The Alma Mater collected authentic Polish folk songs and dances and original costumes under the direction of Mr. S. Cybulski, president of this organization, which is sponsored by the Polish American Congress of L.A., The Polish Women's Alliance, the Polish National Alliance by Tow. Sampomoc and by the Rev. S. Jureko, pastor of "Our Lady of the Bright Mount, R.C. Church," Los Angeles.

Laura J. Mathews